

WYCOMBE FAIL AGAIN ON BOGY GROUND

Sports Mail Special Report

LEYTONSTONE 3 : WYCOMBE WAN. 1

WYCOMBE WANDERERS, despite a good defence, failed to beat the Leytonstone boggy. Their attack lacked thrust, but at half-time was holding its own. Leytonstone were well on top at the end.

Leytonstone: Griffin; Allen, Wood; Ron Hill, Newman, Messer; Ray Hill, Day, Greenhill, Tiffin, Cudmore.

Wycombe Wanderers: Brown; Beck, Lewis; Thomas, Fisher, Gale; Worley, Ashby, Holmes, Rockell, Murphy.

Referee: C W Jillines (Woking).

The former Maidenhead United wing half, Charlie Gale, made his debut for Wycombe Wanderers in the first Isthmian League game of the season at their "hoodoo" Leytonstone ground.

Both teams began tentatively on a slippery pitch. Urged on to centre-half Fisher, Wanderers put more into their tackles but it was a policy that rebounded dramatically.

Young David Thomas hurt himself in an eighth-minute tackle on Cudmore near the edge of the penalty area and **MESSER** slammed the free kick into goal through a crowd of players.

The big, strong Leytonstone forwards looked the more dangerous and were never afraid to shoot.

TOE-ENDER

It took Wanderers 15 minutes to construct their first recognised attack. Worley and Ashby did the spadework but Holmes toe-ended the ball in the direction of the corner flag.

Almost immediately Wanderers missed a sitter. A mis-kick by Newman let Holmes steam through. But his shot hit goalkeeper Griffin on the knees and Ashby impetuously blazed the rebound well wide. Both forwards could have walked the ball into the net.

The Wanderers' half backs had plenty of work but new-

comer Gale found time to join in several attacks. The forward line improved, but showed precious little thrust. Griffin was rarely in action.

Unnecessary handling cost Leytonstone a 35th minute equaliser. Ray Wood, the home captain, fisted away the ball to stop Worley from getting away on the right. Worley's free kick—a beauty—was neatly headed home by **ASHBY**.

Half-time: Leytonstone 1, Wycombe 1.

Although Wanderers began to have much more of the play, with Worley making several clever dribbles on the right, Leytonstone still looked more menacing nearer goal.

OVER ELABORATE

Brown flung himself sideways to grab a fine shot from Greenhill but he was powerless to stop **TIFFIN** from shooting Leytonstone into a 55th minute lead.

Over elaboration cost Wanderers this goal. Thomas was robbed in midfield when he might easily have cleared.

Leytonstone's clever veteran right winger, **RON CUDMORE**, stunned Wanderers by walking through a hesitant defence to score a third goal in the 65th minute.

Even so Leytonstone looked superior in all departments to a disappointing Wanderers side which must show far more life in attack if it is to win away games.

RESULT:

LEYTONSTONE 3
WYCOMBE WANDERERS 1